

ABSTRACT

G-IIC-249

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. ---(204)

1767 (mound), 1902 (monument)

Keysers Ridge, Maryland vicinity

Public/private

Milestone No. ---(204) and its large mound of earth on Bruner Ridge mark a point about $18\frac{3}{4}$ miles west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of Mason and Dixon's 230.228-mile West Line, the English provincial boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. The monument is a very plain dressed marble post with a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in Cockeysville, Maryland. It is in good condition, unaltered, firmly in place; measures 10 inches square by about 15 inches above the mound; and is embellished only by the capital letter P on the north side facing Pennsylvania, M on the south side facing Maryland, the year 1767 on the east side (when the site was originally surveyed and marked with a cairn), and 1902 on the west side (when the new monument was added to the center of the mound during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary). The mound, one of the largest and best preserved on the Line, is in excellent condition, unaltered (except for the substitution of the monument for the original wood centerpost), measures about 15 feet in diameter by about $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet high at the center, and is covered by weedy grass, with a pile of woodland debris shoved up onto the north side (presumed a temporary disposal by the clearing for a new Columbia Gas east-west pipeline). On the national and state levels, No. ---(204) and the mound are significant primarily as being among the thematic group series of some 248 markers still visually defining the West Line. Locally, as among the some 42 markers along the present Garrett/Somerset-Fayette county boundary, they are also significant symbolically for their identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)
HISTORIC (Mason and Dixon's) WEST LINE

AND/OR COMMON

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. --- (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 204)

2 LOCATION (not for publication)

STREET & NUMBER off the northeast side of US 40 (National Pike), Bruner Ridge

CITY, TOWN

Keyzers Ridge ☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MD: 6 / PA: 12

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

MD: Garrett / PA: Somerset

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS N/A	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER state boundary marker

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY (monument and mound only; see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)

NAME

State of Maryland/Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION (see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (also see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

TITLE

Garrett County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

G-IIC-249 entered 9/4/81

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION
☒ EXCELLENT (mound) ☐ DETERIORATED
☒ GOOD (monument) ☐ RUINS
☐ FAIR ☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE
☒ (monument & mound)
☐ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE
☒ (monument & mound)
☐ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. --- (204) and its large mound of earth on the top of Bruner Ridge mark a point on the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary a little over 18 3/4 miles west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of Mason and Dixon's 230.228-mile West Line. The monument is a very plain dressed marble post with a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in Cockeysville, MD. It is in good condition, unaltered, firmly in place; measures 10 inches square by about 15 inches above the mound; and is embellished only by the capital letter P on the north side facing Pennsylvania, M on the south side facing Maryland, the year 1767 on the east side (when the site was originally surveyed and marked with a cairn), and 1902 on the west side (when the new monument was added to the mound during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary).

The mound, one of the largest and best preserved on the Line, is in excellent condition, unaltered (except for the substitution of the monument for the original wood centerpost), and measures about 15 feet in diameter by about 3 1/2 feet high at the center.

The area here is a rugged, remote, densely forested ridge (called Bruner Ridge by the 1900-03 Resurvey; known by the Maryland DNR staff as Keyzers Ridge), in the midst of Savage River State Forest south of the boundary. The site is within Addison Township of Somerset County, PA, and marks the dividing line between Election Districts 3 and 5 of Garrett County, MD; is nearly 2 miles due north of the crossroads called Keyzers Ridge and US 40 (National Pike); about 3 miles southeast of the town of Addison, PA; at a point about 15 feet west of the new forest/pipeline service road and about 15 feet south of the pipeline, at the north edge of the forest. It cannot be seen from this road, but probably could be seen from the pipeline when the pipeline construction debris has been cleared. The site is protected by its remoteness, but is endangered by logging operations on the north side.

The monument, identical to 65 other monuments of 1902 set west of Sideling Hill to visually reestablish the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, is a white, fine-grained marble called saccharoidal dolomite or magnesian limestone; was originally cut about 10 inches square by about 4 1/2 feet long, intended for setting about 1 1/2 feet above ground or mound, with the remaining 3 feet for setting into the ground, thus eliminating the need for a concrete foundation. The letters and numbers are blocky, V-sunk without serifs, and are horizontally aligned as a band around the stone near the top. These, and the top planes and apex, are clear and intact, except for a disfiguring chip in the letter M. There are also many small chips at the top corners and vertical edges; and all surfaces are mottled by lichen.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY
 (see Thematic Group NR nomination form for further descriptions of the 1900-03 monuments and original Mason and Dixon cairns, now mounds)

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		boundary surveying	

SPECIFIC DATES 1767 (mound) ~~1767 (mound)~~ Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon
 1902 (monument) ~~1902 (monument)~~ SURVEYORS

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Milestone No. --- (204) and its ^{large} mound of earth are significant on the national and state levels primarily as being among the thematic group series of some 248 markers still visually defining Mason and Dixon's West Line, the 230.228-mile English provincial boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. The site was surveyed and marked by a cairn in 1767, and the new Cockeysville marble monument added to the center of the remains of the cairn in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Locally, as among the some 42 markers along the present Garrett/Somerset-Fayette county boundary, No. --- (204) and the mound are also significant symbolically for their identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Survey No. G-IIC-249

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

Quadrangle name: Grantsville (Maryland-Pennsylvania), USGS 7.5 minute series (topographic), 1946 photorev. 1974, scale 1:24000

NOTE: monument/mound location not shown on quadrangle; see 1900-03 Resurvey engineer's map Plate LXVIII

UTM reference (approx.): zone 17, easting 65015, northing 439813

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE Maryland

COUNTY Garrett

STATE Pennsylvania

COUNTY Somerset

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason and Dixon's West Line boundary marker surveyor)

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust/Maryland Geological Survey

DATE

10/10/81 (site surveyed)

STREET & NUMBER

14308 Mount Avenue

TELEPHONE

(301) 472-2128

CITY OR TOWN

Phoenix

STATE

Maryland 21131

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

RE: G-TIC-249

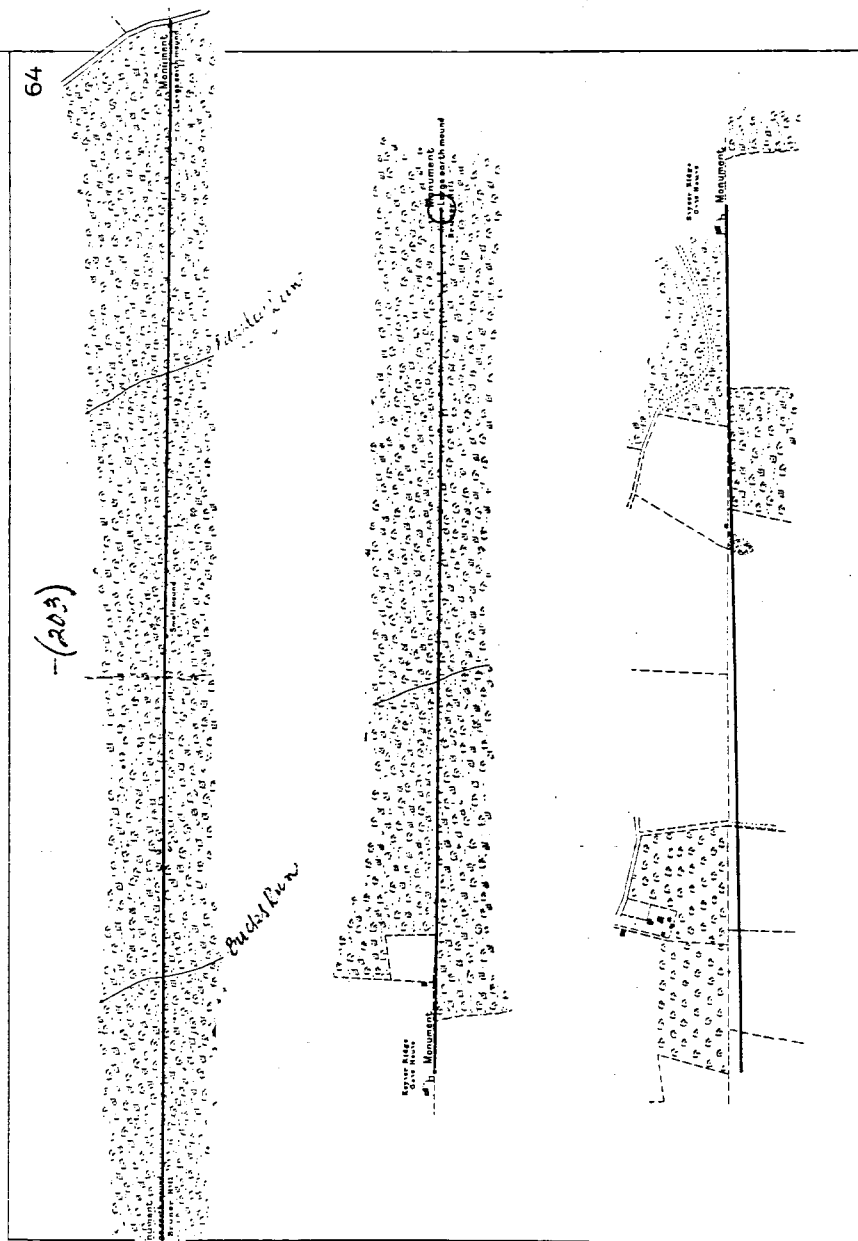
NOTE: THE ^{OTHER} 5X7 B&W GLOSSY PRINT
OF MASON & DIXON'S WEST LINE MILESTONE
NO. — (204) WAS TURNED OVER TO
PETER KURTZE WITH OTHER NR MATERIALS
AS AN EXAMPLE OF AN ORIGINAL MOUND OF
EARTH (1767)

(~~NEG.~~ NO. 11 view looking NE of mound & ^{SW corner of} monument)

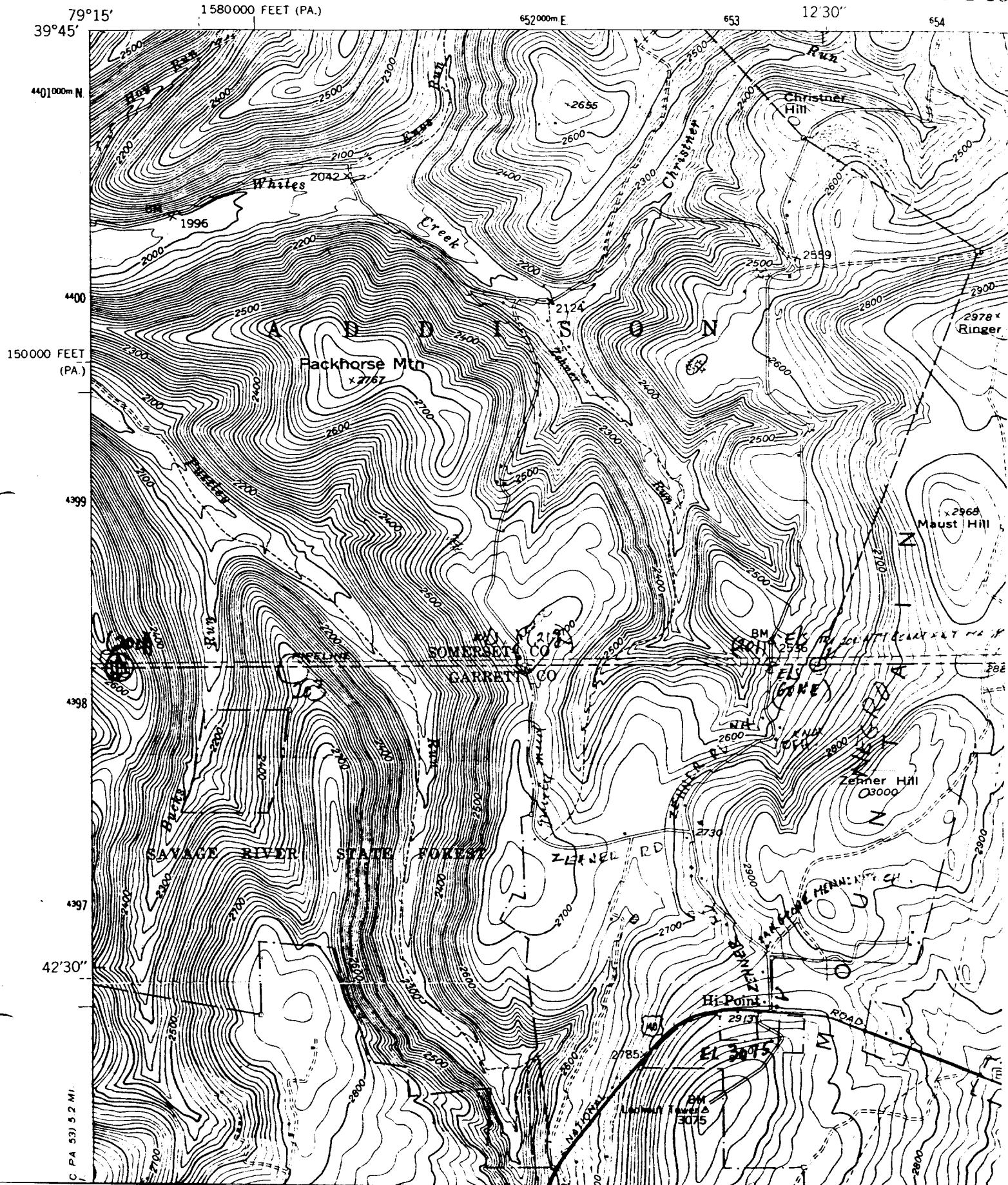
Bill Martin

RESURVEY OF MASON-DIXON LINE.

PLATE LXVIII.



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G-11C-249
MASON EDIXON WEST LINE MILESTONE — (204)
STONE MONUMENT (1912) IN LARGE FLOOD
OF EARTH (1767)
NE CORNER (1767/2)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 1940/1941 1942/1943